

Chief Master Sergeant Barron hails from Morristown, NJ, where he graduated from Parsippany Hills High School and entered the Air Force in 1979. He assumed his duties as Command Chief Master Sergeant, Air Mobility Command, in April 2006. His work as an administrative specialist involved him with tours with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations and Air Force Recruiting Service. Additionally, Chief Master Sergeant Barron served in multiple units as a first sergeant both in the United States and overseas, where during Operations Desert Fox and Allied Force he was instrumental in the initial bed down, troop support, and morale for the largest combat air refueling wing in Air Force history. His work with Air Mobility Command's critical aero medical evacuation mission helped to facilitate the rapid movement of over 23,000 injured warriors to United States medical facilities with a remarkable 98 percent combat-casualty survivability rate.

Beginning in September 2007, Chief Master Sergeant Barron helped lead Air Mobility Command's Total Force Team with tremendous impact. Here, his extraordinary leadership inspired Air Mobility Command's 132,000 Total Force Airmen to successfully accomplish more than thousands of sorties transporting over 4 million passengers, nearly 2 million tons of cargo, and offloading over 3 billion pounds of fuel. Air Mobility Command forces also completed over 43,000 theater-direct delivery sorties, delivering thousands of combat troops, tons of cargo and mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles in support of two overseas contingency operations.

Through the work of Chief Master Sergeant Barron the Mobility Air Force was ready to respond when Hurricanes Gustav and Ike ravaged the gulf coast, generating 564 sorties transporting 8,863 passengers and delivering 1,223 tons of humanitarian supplies. However, Chief Master Sergeant Barron is most proud of his involvement after Hurricane Katrina, where he provided crucial support to the devastated region.

Madam Speaker, CMSgt Joseph E. Barron's selfless dedication to the service of his country is honorable and worthy of recognition. I believe I can speak for the airmen of Air Mobility Command in saying that his dedication has positively impacted those with whom he has served during his years with the Air Force and I join with them in congratulating him on his retirement and a job well done.

HONORING UNITED STATES
PHARMACOPEIAL CONVENTION
OCTOBER 13, 2009

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, in recognition of World Standards Week, which was observed last week, I rise to salute the United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP), which is based in my district in Rockville, Maryland and has sites in China, India, Brazil, and Switzerland.

Since 1820, USP, a non-profit organization, has worked to improve the health of people around the world through public standards and related programs that help ensure the quality,

safety and benefits of medicines and foods. It has worked closely with the FDA to develop and revise drug quality standards. It also sets food ingredient standards and offers voluntary verification programs for pharmaceutical ingredients, dietary supplements, and ingredients used in dietary supplements.

USP's drug standards are legally enforceable by the Food and Drug Administration in the United States, and its standards for drugs, food ingredients and dietary supplements are used and relied upon in more than 130 countries. As part of its mission, USP works with a broad range of standards-setting bodies toward the common goals of inter-organizational cooperation and the widespread dissemination of standards. These bodies include the American National Standards Institute, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the International Standards Organization, the International Bureau of Weights and Measures, the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines, the Chinese National Institute for the Control of Pharmaceutical and Biological Products, the Japanese Pharmacopeia, the British National Institute for Biological Standards and Control, and many others throughout the world.

Patients, consumers, manufacturers, and taxpayers are the ultimate beneficiaries of USP's efforts, and are able to possess greater confidence about the identity and quality of these products in the marketplace. Assisted by more than 1,000 volunteers worldwide, USP engages in public processes to ensure unbiased, independent, authoritative, science-based decision-making.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention for its efforts to enhance food and drug safety standards around the world.

HONORING DOCTORATE IN EDUCATION
AWARDED TO CONGRESSMAN MIKE HONDA BY
KANGWON NATIONAL UNIVERSITY IN SOUTH KOREA

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, this August, I had the honor of traveling to Kangwon National University in South Korea, where I was awarded an honorary doctorate in Education. As a former high school teacher, principal, and school board member, education has always been my top priority. I believe education is a powerful investment in our future, and I have continued my pursuit of both learning and teaching during my tenure in Congress. I was humbled to receive the high honor of an honorary doctorate from Kangwon National University, an institution I have come to deeply respect.

During my visit to Korea, I met with Prime Minister Seung-Soo Han, whose passion for moving President Myung-Bak Lee's "Low Carbon, Green Growth" initiative forward is something that I admire. As a representative from Silicon Valley, which is at the forefront in our country's efforts in renewable energy, I know the importance of Korea's investments in green technologies.

Many individuals helped make my visit to Korea successful and memorable, and I would

like to thank the following people who helped to make my degree and visit possible: Prime Minister Seung-Soo Han; Foreign Minister Myung-Hwan Yu; Kangwon Province Governor Jin-Sun Kim; Kangwon National University President Yong-Jung Kwon; National Assemblywoman Nak-Kyun Shin; National Assemblywoman Mi-Kyung Lee; U.S. Ambassador to Korea Kathleen Stephens; former Korean Ambassador to the U.S. Tae-Sik Lee; American Chamber of Commerce in Korea Chairman David Ruch; House of Sharing, Comfort Women Survivors and Grandma Koon-Ja Kim; Sokcho City Mayor Yong-Sang Chae; and Korean American Voters' Council of New York and New Jersey Leader Dong-Suk Kim.

During my visit, I delivered the following remarks upon accepting my honorary doctorate at Kangwon National University.

It is a pleasure to be here with you here in Korea at Kangwon National University. Thank you for the warm welcome and the kind introduction, and for this wonderful honor.

I'd like to thank the President, distinguished members of the faculty, and students of Kangwon University. I would also like to express my appreciation to Governor Jin-Sun Kim of Kangwon province, and Mr. Dong-Suk Kim of the Korean American Voters' Council.

This is my fourth time in this great country, and each time I leave with stronger friendships and a deeper understanding and connection to Korea. My visits to Korea and the warmth of the Korean people have made a long lasting impression me.

This trip is especially meaningful to me, and I am extremely honored to receive an honorary doctorate in education here at Kangwon National University. As a former teacher, principal, and school board member, education has played an integral role throughout my life, so receiving this degree is very personal.

Education is my passion, and I believe it is the most powerful tool and investment we can provide children with. Quality education assures the economic competitiveness of any nation, advances the arts and sciences, and provides the means for people to achieve individual success. I have worked hard towards providing every child with a high quality education, both as a former educator and as a Member of Congress.

Education also means being able to teach others in order to learn from past mistakes, and flourish as a society. If society cannot look back and learn from previous mistakes, trust and progress between nations is stunted.

To this end, I have spent a portion of my career in Congress educating and working on a historical issue that has grown very close to my heart: that of the 200,000 sex slaves known as comfort women. These comfort women, many of whom were Korean, were forced into dehumanizing sexual slavery, forced to serve up to 30 soldiers a day in some cases. They suffered serious physical, emotional, and psychological damages as a result.

Yesterday, I had the chance to visit with some of the comfort women survivors. I have met these women on several occasions, both in the United States and in Korea at the House of Sharing, and each time I meet them, I am renewed by how strong they are. I cannot emphasize enough how much I admire their perseverance.

The hope of the comfort women is an extremely modest one: That the government of